Appln No. 09/517,541 Amdt. Dated April 01, 2004 Response to Office action of October 08, 2003

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the Office Action dated 8 October 2003.

However, it appears Examiner's choice of prior art is in error. The present application is a divisional of application 09/113,223, upon which the cited patent was granted. This is mentioned in the very first line of the present specification, as required under US patent law. As such, the cited patent is not prior art under s102(e), as suggested by Examiner.

Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw this rejection.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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